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November 16, 2007

Ms. Berbadine Abdi Secretary Trademark Trial and Appeal Board United States Patent and Trademark Office Trademark Trial and Appeal Board P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

ATLANTA

AUSTIN

BOSTON

DELAWARE

MUNICH

NEW YORK

SAN DIEGO

SYLICON VALLEY

TWIN CITIES

WASHINGTON, DC

Re: RL

Applicant: Honda Motor Co., Ltd. Application No.: 78/514,746

Our Ref.: 10691.0122002

Dear Ms. Abdi:

This will confirm my oral advice of yesterday afternoon.

On October 4, 2007, you advised us that oral argument before the Board was scheduled for November 20, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.

Our client has directed us to petition to cancel Registration No. 2,912,328, which is the Registration the Trademark Examiner had cited as precluding our client's registration. I enclose a copy of the Petition for Cancellation (minus Exhibits) which we are mailing today.

Because Applicant is initiating and will be involved in a Board inter partes proceeding that may be dispositive of the principal issue involved in the present appeal (whether Registration No. 2,912,328 is a bar to registration of Application No. 78/514,746 - if Petitioner is successful, Registration 2,912,328 will be cancelled and, therefore, no longer an obstacle to Application No. 78/514,746), Applicant/Petitioner will, either later today or Monday, request suspension of the present appeal pursuant to TBMP § 1213(1).

### FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.

Ms. Berbadine Abdi November 16, 2007 Page 2

In order to avoid unnecessary preparation by members of the Board or the Trademark Examiner, we are notifying you now that we will be seeking a suspension of this Appeal before the time scheduled for oral argument.

Respectfully submitted

Attorney for Applicant

P. 1

# FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.

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Date November 16, 2007

To Ms. Bernadine Abdi, Secretary
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board
P.O. Box 1451
Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

Facsimile number (571) 273-6232

From Anthony L. Fletcher

Re RL

Applicant: Honda Motor Co., Ltd. Application No.: 78/514,746

Our Ref.: 10691.0122002

Number of pages

including this page 7

Message Please see enclosed.

NOTE: This facsimile is intended for the addressee only and may contain privileged or confidential information. If you have received this facsimile in error, please immediately call us collect at 212 765-5070 to arrange for its return. Thank you.

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Attorney's Docket No.: 10691-0122002

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

In the matter of Registration No. 2,912,328 For the Mark RL-CLASS
Issued on December 21, 2004

HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.,

Petitioner.

ν.

Cancellation No.

DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG,

Respondent.

#### PETITION FOR CANCELLATION

Honda Motor Co., Ltd., a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of Japan, and having an address of 1-1, 2-Chome, Minami-Aoyama, Minato-Ku, Tokyo, 107-8556, Japan, believes that it is and will be damaged by the continued registration of the mark RL-CLASS shown in the above-identified registration, and hereby petitions to cancel the same.

As grounds therefore, it is alleged that:

 Honda Motor Co., Ltd., itself and through subsidiaries, affiliates and related companies (collectively, "Petitioner"), manufactures, markets and sells, among other products,

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Trademarks, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313-1451.

11//0/			
Date of Deposit	15)		
Signature	0		
/	THITHOM	L.	FLETCHER
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate			

automotive vehicles, including passenger automobiles, sport utility vehicle trucks ("SUVs"), pickup trucks, minivans, motorcycles and all terrain vehicles ("ATVs") throughout the world.

- 2. Petitioner uses and has used, since at least as early as December 31, 1995, and long prior to February 28, 2003, the mark 3.5RL for its automobiles and structural parts thereof.
- 3. Petitioner owns U.S. Registration No. 2,281,336, issued September 28, 1999, for the mark 3.5RL for automobiles and structural parts thereof in International Class 12. A copy of Petitioner's Certificate of Registration for U.S. Registration No. 2,281,336 is annexed hereto as Exhibit A.
- 4. U.S. Registration No. 2,281,336 is valid, subsisting and uncancelled. A copy of Petitioner's Notice of Acceptance under Section 8 of the Federal Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. §1058, and Petitioner's Notice of Acknowledgment under Section 15 of the Federal Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. §1065, for U.S. Registration No. 2,281,336 is annexed hereto as Exhibit B.
- 5. Within the unitary mark 3.5RL, "3.5" is merely descriptive of a characteristic of the engine, while "RL" is arbitrary. Petitioner owns valuable goodwill in its 3.5RL mark, the primary and dominant element of which is "RL".
- 6. Respondent, DaimlerChrysler AG ("Respondent"), filed U.S. Application Serial No. 76/539,718 on August 25, 2003 for the mark RL-CLASS for automobiles and their structural parts in International Class 12, toy automobiles among other toys and sporting goods in International Class 28, and repair and maintenance of motor vehicles in International Class 37. Respondent based this application on an intent to use the mark in U.S. commerce. Respondent also claimed a priority filing date of February 28, 2003, under Section 44(d) of the Federal Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. §1126(d), based on its application to register the mark RL-CLASS in Germany, which it filed on February 28, 2003. Respondent's U.S. Application Serial No.

76/539,718 issued to registration on December 21, 2004 under U.S. Registration No. 2,912,328, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit C.

- 7. Within the unitary mark **RL-CLASS**, "RL" is arbitrary, while "-CLASS" is either descriptive or generic.
- 8. Respondent's RL-CLASS mark for automobiles and their structural parts so closely resembles Petitioner's previously used and registered 3.5RL mark that, when applied to Respondent's automobiles and their structural parts, it is likely to suggest a false connection or association with Petitioner in violation of Section 2(a) of the Federal Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. §1052(a), and is likely to cause confusion, to cause mistake and to deceive, with resulting injury to Petitioner, in violation of Section 2(d) of the Federal Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. §1052(d).
- 9. Petitioner uses and/or has used the mark RL (without "3.5") for its automobiles and the structural parts thereof since at least as early as October 31, 2004.
- 10. Petitioner filed U.S. Application Serial No. 78/514,746 on November 10, 2004 for the mark RL for automobiles and structural parts thereof in International Class 12. A copy of Petitioner's Application Serial No. 78/514,746 is annexed hereto as Exhibit D.
- The U.S. Patent and Trademark Examiner assigned to U.S. Application Serial No. 78/514,746 has refused to register the mark, alleging that the mark in U.S. Application Serial No. 78/514,746 so closely resembles the mark in Respondent's U.S. Registration No. 2,912,328 as to be likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake or to deceive. A copy of the Examiner's final refusal to register U.S. Application Serial No. 78/514,746 is annexed hereto as Exhibit E.
- 12. Based upon the foregoing, the registration of the mark depicted in U.S. Registration No. 2,912,328, registered on December 21, 2004 on the Principal Register of the

United States Patent and Trademark Office, has and/or will cause injury and damage to Petitioner.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner requests that U.S. Registration No. 2,912,328 for RL-CLASS owned by Respondent be cancelled, and that this Petition for Cancellation be sustained in favor of Petitioner.

Please charge Deposit Account 06-1050, Order No. 10691-0122002, for the filing fee for this Petition for Cancellation, as well as for any other fees that may be due.

Dated: November 16, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.

Anthony L. Fletcher Erin M. Hickey

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Attorneys for Petitioner, HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.